

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Final Office Action dated July 24, 2008. Claims 1, 3-14, 16-20 and 22 remain in this application. Claims 1, 12-14 and 20 are the independent Claims. Claims 1, 12-14 and 20 have been amended. Claims 2, 15, 21 and 23-25 are canceled without prejudice. It is believed that no new matter is involved in the amendments or arguments presented herein. Reconsideration and entrance of the amendment in the application are respectfully requested.

Non-Art Based Rejections

Claims 1, 3-14, 16-20 and 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, for indefiniteness.

With respect to Claims 1, 12-14 and 20, applicant has amended those claims to address the concern expressed in the Office Action. Support for the amendment is found in originally presented Claim 21 and applicant's specification at pages 16, line 9. With respect to Claims 12-14 and 20, applicant notes that those claims are amended to include a period at the end of each claim. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the above § 112 rejections are respectfully requested.

There being no other grounds of rejection set forth, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1, 3-14, 16-20 and 22 are in condition for allowance and such allowance is respectfully requested.

Art-Based Rejections

Claims 24 and 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a), (b) or (e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,824,827 (Katsuki). In response, Claims 24 and 25 are canceled, rendering the rejections moot.

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Reply to Office Action of July 24, 2008

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Conclusion

Applicant believes the foregoing amendments comply with requirements of form and thus may be admitted under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116(b). Alternatively, if these amendments are deemed to touch the merits, admission is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116(c). In this connection, these amendments were not earlier presented because they are in response to the matters pointed out for the first time in the Final Office Action.

Lastly, admission is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116(b) as presenting rejected claims in better form for consideration on appeal.


In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application, as amended, are requested.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at the Los Angeles, California telephone number (310) 785-4721 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-1314.

Respectfully submitted,
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